UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.3/49/L.10
1 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 95

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and United States of America: draft resolution

Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and of the long-term strategy to implement the world programme of action concerning disabled persons to the year 2000 and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,

Also recalling its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 1/

Further recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/53 of 3 December 1982, 46/96 of 16 December 1991, 47/88 of 16 December 1992 and 48/95 and 48/99 of 20 December 1993,

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1/ A/37/351/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (iv).

Welcoming the unreserved reaffirmation in the Vienna Declaration on Human Rights 2/ of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and the recognition in the programme of action of the United Nations Conference on Population and Development 3/ of a pressing need, among others, for the realization of the goals of full participation and equality for persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming the continuing validity and value of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, which provides a firm and innovative framework for disability-related issues,

Reiterating the responsibility of Governments for removing or facilitating the removal of barriers and obstacles to the full integration and participation of persons with disabilities into society, and supporting their efforts in developing national policies to reach specific objectives,

Recognizing the contribution of non-governmental organizations, especially organizations of persons with disabilities, in the global effort to bring about full participation and equality for persons with disabilities,

Aware of the major obstacles to the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, foremost among these being an inadequate allocation of resources,

Having due regard to the preconditions set out under section I of the Standard Rules for equal participation, including national action to raise awareness in society about persons with disabilities, their rights, their needs, their potential and the need to realize these, and their contributions, to provide effective medical care, including mental health care, to ensure rehabilitative services, to establish and maintain support services, including assistive devices, for persons with disabilities and to assist them to increase their level of independence in their daily living and to exercise their rights,

I

Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

1. Urges all Governments and organizations to implement fully the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution 48/96;

2. Invites Member States, in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities, to develop disability programmes, both on a national and local level, for the implementation of the Standard Rules and to include disability components in all planning, policy and development programmes;

2/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

3/ A/CONF.171/13, chap. I, resolution I, annex.

3. Also invites Member States, in developing disability programmes, to set time limits for the accomplishment of specific goals or targets, where appropriate;

4. Encourages Governments to take legal and administrative measures, as appropriate, to implement fully the Standard Rules;

5. Also encourages the consideration during major forthcoming events, including the 1995 World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, of disability issues relevant to the subject matter of those events;

6. Welcomes the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on Disability to monitor the implementation of the Standard Rules and to submit reports to the Commission on Social Development at its thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions;

7. Also welcomes the establishment of a panel of experts as referred to in section IV, paragraph 3, of the Standard Rules;

8. Encourages the Secretary-General and United Nations agencies concerned to finalize the development of a global disability indicator, and the Special Rapporteur to make full use of it, where appropriate, in his future work;

9. Notes, with appreciation, that a number of Member States have made, or have indicated their intention to make, contributions to support the work of the Special Rapporteur;

10. Invites Governments and the private sector to provide meaningful assistance to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability, with the view to providing additional support to the implementation of the Standard Rules, within the context of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the effective monitoring by the Special Rapporteur of the Standard Rules by providing adequate funding through extrabudgetary sources;

12. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

II

Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons; 4/

4/ A/49/435.

2. Calls upon Governments, when implementing the Programme, to take into account the elements suggested in the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond, as set out in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General;

3. Notes with interest the various activities and contributions made by United Nations offices and agencies in the disability field;

4. Requests the regional organizations to facilitate the adaptation and transfer of global approaches, standards and technology to the specific needs of the region;

5. Urges global organizations to support regional and national plans;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure appropriate support for the effective functioning of the Long-term Strategy;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the Long-term Strategy.